

From the Secretary

By Karen Goff

The 2013 Legislative session ends at midnight Saturday, April 13. Although it is ending without passage of bills establishing a dedicated local funding stream for public libraries or a Library Facilities Improvement Fund, the scope of libraries' needs for both operating and capital funding achieved significant attention. National Library Week, April 14-20, is a great opportunity to continue the conversation. This year's theme, *Communities matter @ your library*, highlights how all types of libraries serve a variety of communities from babies to business owners. You know the needs of these communities that make up the community as a whole because you listen and respond to students, parents, teachers, seniors, and elected officials. You listen and respond to the wealthy and the poor, to those with advanced degrees and those seeking their first degree, or a job, or insight, or escape. Invite your county commissioners, mayors, legislators, county school superintendent, faculty, etc. to help you celebrate National Library Week. Tell them what the library does and what it could do with increased funding. There is a good chance that the Legislature will initiate an Interim Study on public library funding. Be prepared. Keep talking. Keep serving. Keep planning.



Embracing Versatility: Library Commission Hosting/ Sponsoring a Number of Programs at WVLA Spring Fling

The Library Commission has long partnered with the West Virginia Library Association to provide training opportunities and neat programs at the annual WVLA Spring Fling conference, held this year at the Days Inn Flatwoods in Braxton County, April 11-12. This year, WVLC is hosting or sponsoring a number of events to refresh and enhance the skills of our library workforce. Join us as we offer an inviting series of programs designed to help you "Embrace Versatility." Note these workshops:

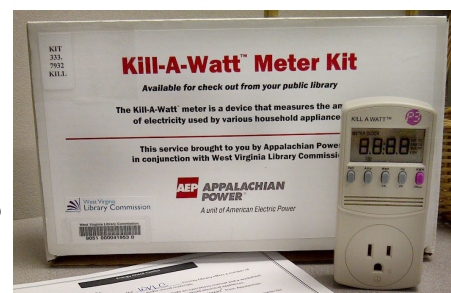
Disaster Planning for Libraries. WVLC provided a grant to assist Cabell County Public Library in their disaster preparation. Now Cabell County's Angela Strait shares what she has learned. Does your library staff know what to do in case of an emergency? An emergency can take on many forms; a disgruntled patron who becomes violent, a fight, tornado, flood, or a host of other problems. While it may be impossible to

plan and prepare for every form of disaster, we hope to be able to answer some of your questions, and then help you form a written plan as guidance for library staff. The first part of the session will be hosted by a panel of trained first responders. The panel will provide advice and answer your questions. After the panel discussion, you will learn how to begin the process of developing your Disaster Plan. You will also be provided with helpful resources to help you along the way. This program will be held Thursday, 9:00 AM–11:30 AM.

The Basics of Good Library Planning. Long-range planning is essential for the operation of any good library, and is required of West Virginia's public libraries, but where does one begin? This session will cover everything from gathering the data necessary to make effective plans for any library down to putting plans on paper, presenting them to key players, and evaluating the effectiveness of such plans. While geared toward public library administrators and trustees, the workshop would be applicable in many cases to any type of library. John Paul Myrick will provide a presentation to library directors and trustees on what they need to know when it comes to planning, the necessities of planning for library growth and how careful community assessment comes into play. This program will be held Thursday morning from 9:00-11:15 AM.



Kill-A-Watt Kits: Saving Energy through Energy Efficiency will be held Thursday, April 11 from 1:00-2:15 PM. Partnering with Appalachian Power, the Library Commission placed a number of Kill-a-Watt kits in public libraries throughout the state. Stacy Gloss will explain how these kits can be marketed to library patrons and incorporated into programs to save patrons money and conserve energy.



Dig into Your Roots: Using FamilySearch in Genealogical Reference. FamilySearch is a free genealogical database provided by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints which provides a wealth of genealogical and local history information. Many libraries use FamilySearch in lieu of purchasing more expensive research databases. John Paul Myrick will explain this free genealogical database which can help your patrons find census and family history information, and how to incorporate it into research. This program will be held on Thursday, April 11 from 1:00-2:15 PM.

What Is The Center For The Book And What Can It Do For You? The West Virginia Center for the Book is a part of the Library Commission unfamiliar to many in our state's library workforce. Center Director John Paul Myrick, and WVLC staff members Susan Hayden and Megan Tarbett will explain many of the activities of the center and how they can be of benefit to libraries. The WV Reads 150 celebration will also be discussed. This program will be held Thursday, April 11 from 2:20–3:35 PM.

West Virginia Broadband and Fiber Update. WVLC's Harlan White will provide an update on the state of fiber in our public libraries. There has been a lot of progress since we last met. WVLC Secretary Karen Goff and Administrative Services Director Denise Seabolt will also be available to answer questions pertaining to E-rate funds. This session will be held Thursday, April 11 from 2:20–3:35 PM.

Promoting a Library Event: Press Releases and How to Use Them. Publicity is the key to well-attended events and widely distributed library news. Participants will learn how to write a press release, find the media in your area, interact with the media, and promote your event or news. WVLC Communications Officer Preston Richardson will provide this presentation on Thursday, April 11 from 4:00-5:15 PM.



The Job Diva's Guide to Resume and Career Building. This program will explain ways to help library users make career plans and preparation and write resumes. Using the *Learn-A-Test* and *Job and Career Accelerator* databases available through WVInfoDepot.org (<http://wvinfo depot.org>) will be highlighted. Susan Hayden of WVLC and Olivia Bravo of the Kanawha County Public Library will host this program from 4:00-5:15 PM on Thursday, April 11.

Kindles and Nooks and Tables, Oh My! Join WVLC's Megan Tarbett for a chance to talk e-books and to "pet" some of the newest devices in WVLC's Technology Petting Zoo! The Zoo will be open on Thursday, April 11 from 5:20pm-6:30pm.

Implementing Resource Description and Access (RDA) At Your Library. Resource description and access was implemented this March by the national libraries and other libraries will shortly follow. Learn what steps the Library Commission will take in training libraries across the state as well as its own implementation schedule. Heather Campbell-Shock, WVLC State Library Manager will provide this presentation on Thursday, April 11 from 5:20-6:35 PM.



Early Literacy: Ideas and Sources for Something We've Been Doing All Along. This session will provide a definition of Early Literacy and how public libraries can promote it, suggest organizations to partner with and resources. This program will explain how to recognize what libraries already do to encourage Early Literacy and how to let the community know all about it. WVLC's Suzy McGinley will host this presentation from 4:00-5:15 PM on Friday, April 12.

Geek-The-Library. In 2012, WVLC provided a scholarship for Mary Stenger of the Southern Area Library to attend the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference where she learned about the national "Geek-The-Library" campaign. Mary will explain the campaign and how it can benefit your library and your users. Her session will be held from 2:20-3:35 PM on Friday, April 12.

Children's Roundtable Meeting. WVLC's Suzy McGinley will host this meeting from 5:20-6:15 PM on Friday, April 12. Among topics to be discussed will be the annual Summer Library Program and a new initiative relating to the West Virginia Children's Choice Book Awards.

For more information on the WVLA Spring Fling 2013, see the WVLA website, <http://wvla.org>.

Target: Early Childhood Reading Grants

Target Early Childhood Reading Grants (<http://tinyurl.com/cyxc6gu>) promote a love of reading and encourage young children to read together with their families by supporting programs such as after-school reading

events and weekend book clubs. That the maximum award is \$2,000. Schools, libraries and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. April 30, 2013 is the deadline for applying.

Libraries Receive Supplemental Grants

The West Virginia Library Commission has awarded supplemental grants totaling \$134,828 to eight public libraries across the state for construction and renovation projects:

• Belington Public Library	\$10,000
• Cabell County Public Library	\$19,663
• Keyser-Mineral County Public Library	\$10,000
• Mountaintop Public Library	\$10,000
• Pleasants County Public Library	\$20,165
• Pocahontas County Free Libraries (Durbin Branch)	\$20,000
• Shepherdstown Public Library	\$25,000
• Valley Head Public Library	\$20,000



With West Virginia's public libraries needed more now than ever to help West Virginians prepare for work and find it, libraries across the state were encouraged to apply for the supplemental grants. Libraries were invited to submit proposals for projects in the areas of construction, programming, collections and equipment, with construction being the top priority.

In order to provide significant assistance, the Library Commission set a \$10,000 minimum for construction or renovation grants. Requests in this category alone totaled almost \$500,000 and did not include requests for new facilities. Karen Goff, Secretary of the Library Commission, said "The number of applications for these grants illustrates the needs, activities and aspirations of public libraries across the state."

No federal or state funds are available specifically for construction and renovation.

The projects funded by the supplemental grants vary in scope and scale. Pocahontas County Free Libraries will add wiring, plumbing and fire alarms to a new building that has been under construction for a few years. "We're renting a location in Durban right now, but it's incredibly small," said Director Vicky Terry. "We're excited about the supplemental grant," said Terry. "When we get some money, we do something in the new library and get closer to moving in."

Mountaintop Public Library in Tucker County will use its supplemental grant for a much-needed new roof. Among other problems, leaks in the old roof have caused the ceiling to grow mold and fall in places. Valley Head Public Library in Randolph County will connect its original building to a new addition behind it. In an email to Secretary Goff, Valley Head Director Douglas Wood wrote, "We thank you and the town of Valley Head thanks you so very much."



West Virginia Library Commission Commends the Leadership and Support of the Ohio County Board of Education

Members of the Ohio County Board of Education, county educational leaders, and instructional personnel were publicly commended by resolution of the West Virginia Library Commissioners at their March 21st meeting for the Board's historic and ongoing participation with and support of the Ohio County Public Library (OCPL), located in Wheeling.

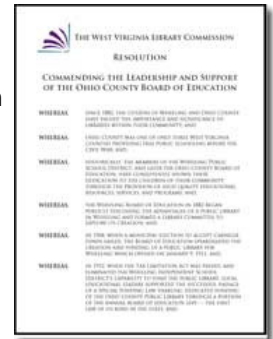
The Commissioners made special recognition of Board President James M. Jorden and Ohio County Board of Education members' public affirmation to continue financial support of the Library for the remainder of this fiscal year and throughout the next fiscal year. In February 2013, the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals ruled that requiring boards of education to fund libraries from special laws is unconstitutional, but advised that non-mandatory funding is acceptable. Commissioners lauded the board's intention to continue financially supporting the Ohio County Public Library, not only in the upcoming year, but for "many years to come."

Commission Chair, Betty B. Gunnoe noted, "Within the Northern Panhandle, and elsewhere in the state, libraries have historically enjoyed the active support of local school systems and boards of education in delivering services and programs to West Virginia residents. Before the Civil War, educators in Ohio County provided free public education, which ultimately led to the creation and funding of a local public library at the beginning of the 20th Century. Ohio County educators have always been library leaders."

When the Tax Limitation Act of 1932 eliminated the Wheeling Independent School District's capability to fund the public library, local educational leaders supported the successful passage of a Special Funding Law enabling dedicated funding of the Ohio County Public Library through a portion of the annual board of education levy — the first law of its kind in the state.

State Librarian Karen E. Goff reiterated, "The relationship between public libraries and educators in West Virginia remains strongly symbiotic and vital with the ultimate goal of creating and supporting a state of lifelong learners. The local public library has long been recognized as the gateway to lifelong learning and in this state continues to effectively partner with local school systems and educators to positively impact the lives of our fellow citizens. In Wheeling, the Ohio County Board of Education has boldly proclaimed their support for the public library and all that it can offer to Northern Panhandle residents."

Copies of the resolution will be presented to the President of the Ohio County Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools. View the resolution at: <http://tinyurl.com/cyp6rc4>.



Communities Matter @ Your library: Celebrate National Library Week April 14-20

The West Virginia Library Commission will join libraries across West Virginia and the nation in celebrating National Library Week, April 14-20, to highlight the value of libraries, librarians and library workers.

Libraries today are more than repositories for books and other resources. Libraries are often the heart of their communities, campuses or schools, and they are deeply committed to the places where their patrons live, work and study.

West Virginia libraries will celebrate themselves and their communities this National Library Week. West Virginians are encouraged to find their local libraries and discover how they can take part.



For example, the Jackson County Public Library wants to reach 414 "Likes" for its Ravenswood location on Facebook by 04-14-13 to kick off National Library Week. Director Hope Nobel invites "Anyone who would like to help us" to visit the library's Facebook page, <http://tinyurl.com/bmz3zb4>.

The Dora B. Woodyard Memorial Library in Elizabeth, WV will reenact a Civil War camp on Friday, March 19 with a visit from "Mad Anne Bailey" scheduled.

The Terra Alta Public Library in Preston County has much in store for its community. On Monday, March 15, Terra Alta Mayor Charles Feather and former Mayor Howard Metheny will talk about the history of the library since its founding in 1972. The men were there at the beginning, putting up shelves in Town Hall, the original library facility. The rest of the week will include a fair, Clown Day and Craft Day. Friday will be "Games and Puzzles Galore Day," "one of the community's favorites," according to Director Ima Thomas.

"Shady Spring Public Library believes in the power of community," said Director Carolyn Light about the discussions community members will present. Highlights include Lacy Treadway on "Backyard Medicine: Finding Medicine and Food in Your Backyard" on Monday, and Dreama Denver on her new book, "Gilligan's Dreams" about her life with Bob Denver on Tuesday. Both presentations will be at 2:00 pm.

Raleigh County Public Library in Beckley will offer "Curiosity Day" on April 19th. Tour guide Curious George will lead children on an educational scavenger hunt throughout the library.

The Williamstown Public Library in Wood County will present three speakers for National Library Week. On Monday, woodworking writer and editor A. J. Hamler will discuss Civil War Woodworking. On Tuesday, Kittie Clark will discuss Appalachian Dulcimers. On Thursday, local historian, certified genealogist and *Marietta Times* columnist Louise Zimmer will discuss the Ohio River Islands. All presentations will be at 7:00 pm.

A number of libraries across the state will offer fine amnesties for the week, including the Craigsville Public Library in Nicholas County. "And any patron coming to the Library that week will receive a free book from our donated book shelf," said Directory Jo Ann Flynn. "That way we will get some of our overdue books back on the shelves and give away some wonderful books that we can't use anymore, ones that have been weeded out or donated."

The West Virginia Library Commission will celebrate National Library Week with two activities on April 18. For "Poem in Your Pocket Day," State Library staff will share their favorite poems with customers throughout the day. At noon the staff will present a session of the "Digital Petting Zoo" where they will demonstrate the newest and most popular e-readers.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.

West Virginia Libraries in the News

- **Gilmer Public Library and the Robert F. Kidd Library are hosting World Book Night on April 23.** The Gilmer Public Library will serve as the distribution site for “book giver” volunteers who will hand out free books on World Book Night. Each volunteer will receive 20 copies of his or her favorite book chosen from a list of 30. The books are specially printed World Book Night editions donated by publishing companies. The book givers will determine how the books are distributed, but the books must be given to those who do not read on a regular basis, and those who may have never owned a book of their own. Read more at *The Gilmer Free Press*, <http://tinyurl.com/d8w8anp>. Learn more about the program at www.us.worldbooknight.org.
- **Summers County Library Heirloom Seed Lending Library.** Myra Ziegler, library director, said the library is offering seeds for several kinds of tomatoes, watermelons, squash and other vegetables. Those who want to use the heirloom seeds can take a pack home to plant. Borrowers must promise to save some seeds from their tastiest and prettiest veggies and bring them to the library to keep the project going. The library will provide instructions for those who have never harvested seeds or who have questions about the process. Read more at *The Register-Herald*, <http://tinyurl.com/c83u7m5>.
- **Man’s “Instant Library” Celebrates 40 Years.** The Buffalo Creek Memorial is celebrating 40 years of service. Until this first “instant” library in the state opened in 1973, Man area residents only had access to books via bookmobile every three weeks. Read more at the *Logan Banner*, <http://tinyurl.com/cyfc4gr>.
- **Library Launches Appalachian Regional Interest Collection.** The staff in Annie Merner Pfeiffer Library at West Virginia Wesleyan College is continually finding ways to better serve the campus and community, and Beth Rogers, coordinator of reference, instruction, and outreach at the Library, has added yet another notch to its already impressive selection . . . an Appalachian Regional Interest Collection has been added to the Library’s shelves. Read more at *The State Journal*, <http://tinyurl.com/cxeylof>.



Upcoming Workshops, Webinars and Web Courses

- **Grant Seeking for Nonprofit Organizations** at the Downtown Campus Library of West Virginia University on Saturday, April 13, 9:30 am-12:00 pm. The session will highlight the electronic and print resources available for use at the Downtown Campus Library, a cooperating collection of the Foundation Center. The training will cover grant seeking basics and provide an introduction on how to find funders. Pre-registration is required. To register, contact Penny Pugh at ppugh@wvu.edu (304-293-0334) or Alyssa Wright at Alyssa.wright@mail.wvu.edu (304-293-0337). WVLC will award CE credit for attendance at the workshop. No application for credit is necessary; just send proof of attendance after the session.
- **Introduction to FoundationCenter.Org**, a regional workshop from the Mary H. Weir Public Library, April 15, 6:00-9:00 PM. The Foundation Center helps grant seekers, grant makers, researchers, policymakers, the media and the general public better understand philanthropy. The Mary H. Weir Public Library is a cooperating col-

lection of the Foundation Center. The library has successfully acquired AmeriCorps.gov/VISTA resources for community development service. WVLC will award CE credit for attendance at the workshop. No application for credit is necessary; just send proof of attendance after the session. To register, contact Richard Rekowski at rekowski@weirton.lib.wv.us (304 797-8510).

- **Weeding: The Basics and Beyond**, a free, hour-long, webinar from CollectionHQ. Rebecca Vnuk, *Booklist* editor for Reference and Collection Management, will present the basics of weeding. She'll be joined by Miriam Tuliao of New York Public Library and Mary Cohen of Palos Verdes Library District who will offer practical advice and discuss the benefits of using collectionHQ. The webinar is April 16 at 2:00 PM. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/bst5sg2> to register. If you can't make the date, register anyway so a link to the archived webinar video can be e-mailed to you after the event. If you have questions, e-mail webinars@booklistonline.com.
- **Fundamentals of Collection Assessment** from the Association of Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), April 29–June 7, 2013. This six-week online course introduces the fundamental aspects of collection assessment in libraries. The course is designed for those who are responsible for or interested in collection assessment in all types and sizes of libraries. The course will introduce key concepts in collection assessment including: the definition of collection assessment, techniques and tools, assessment of print and electronic collections, project design and management. Registration is \$109 for ALCTS members and \$129 for non-members. For details and registration information visit: <http://tinyurl.com/br6d32p>. For registration questions, contact ALA Registration by calling 1-800-545-2433 and press 5 or e-mail registration@ala.org. For all other questions contact Julie Reese, ALCTS Events Manager at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5034 or e-mail alctsce@ala.org.

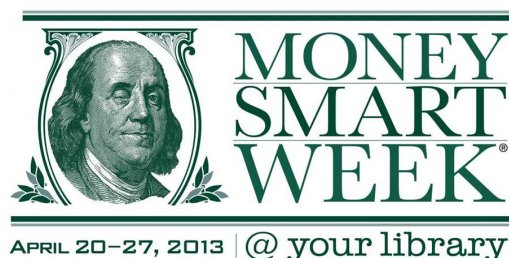


Money Smart Week Essay Contest

The Money Smart Week Essay Contest is open to all West Virginia students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Essays will be judged during the week immediately preceding Money Smart Week, April 20 – 27. Winners will be announced during Money Smart Week and the awards ceremonies will take place at the students' schools at a later date. Visit www.jaadvantage.com/events.php to download the contest entry form and guidelines. Note that essays must be e-mailed or postmarked on or before 4:00 pm Friday, April 12, 2013.

Make Plans for School Library Month

Join libraries across the nation and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) in celebrating School Library Month in April. During the month, libraries, especially school libraries, are encouraged to create activities to help their school and local community celebrate the essential role that strong libraries play in a student's education. The theme for April 2013 is "Communities Matter @ Your Library." The AASL School Library Month Committee is busy planning activities and creating resources to help librarians celebrate. For more information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/d5vfjpb>.



Grants Available for *Pushing the Limits* Project

The CALIFA Group is conducting a national search for 75 rural libraries to join a grant project funded by the National Science Foundation. The goal is to strengthen adult science programming and resources in small and rural public libraries and to enhance public interest and involvement in STEM topics – science, technology, engineering and math. Application is now open for the 2013-14 year. Visit <http://califa.org/limits.php> for a description of the project and an online application.

Ramp Dinner to Benefit Upshur County Public Library

The Upshur County Public Library will hold its 19th Annual Benefit Dinner – **Ramps, A Culinary Extravaganza** – at the library on Friday, April 19, at 5:00-8:00 pm. The price is \$15.00 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Upshur County Public Library. The food will be prepared by the 88 Restaurant & Lounge. The menu will include such delicacies as: Stir Fried Ramps, Ramp Chowder, Ramp Quiche, Mixed Green Salad with Bacon/Ramp Vinaigrette Dressing, Tavern Ham, Red Roasted Potatoes, Corn Bread and Dinner Rolls, Apple Dumplings & Peach-Blueberry Cobbler. Please make reservations by April 16 by calling (304) 473-4219 ext. 14. (Please note: The library will be closed Friday, April 19 to set up for the dinner that evening.)

Library Lookout

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